Applicant(s): Armstrong	
Application No.: 09/461,492	Group Art Unit: 2131
Filed: 12/14/1999	Examiner: Zia
Title: Intelligent Filtering for Contact Spanning Multiple Access Networks	
Attorney Docket No.: Nortel 10616BAUS01U/120-308	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Declaration of Prior Invention under 37 CFR 1.131

Reference being antedated

The reference being antedated is U.S. Patent 6,301,609, entitled ASSIGNABLE ASSOCIATE PRIORITIES FOR USER-DEFINABLE INSTANT MESSAGING BUDDY GROUPS, Aravamudan et al. ("'609 patent"). The '609 patent issued October 9, 2001 from an application filed September 8, 1999, which claimed priority to a provisional patent application, 60/142,597, filed July 7, 1999, and also to 60/142,598, filed July 7, 1999.

Conception of the Invention

As evidenced by the INVENTION DISCLOSURE SUBMISSION REPLY ("Disclosure") attached hereto as Appendix A, Steven Armstrong and Eric Parsons conceived the invention as early as February 1, 1999, the date of first written description. Further, the Disclosure is computer time-stamped as being received by Assignee's patent department on June 1, 1999. Therefore, both the first written description and the Disclosure predate the '609 patent.

The description of the invention in the Disclosure describes the subject matter of the presently claimed invention. Although the description is self-explanatory, particular attention is drawn to the section entitled "Specific elements or steps that solved the problem and how they do it." Note that a user's presence is based on the set of devices currently available for use. Note also that user-defined rules are applied.

Diligence and Reduction to Practice

The invention was constructively reduced to practice at least as early as December 14, 1999, which is the filing date of the present patent application (09/461,492), which describes and claims the subject matter. It was Applicant's practice in 1999 to have inventions described by inventors in a Disclosure document, such as Appendix A. Disclosures were collected and subsequently reviewed by a patent review committee which met either periodically or when a sufficient number of Disclosures had been collected. If the patent review committee recommended that a patent application be prepared, and an in-house patent attorney or agent agreed, the Disclosure would be provided to an outside law firm. The outside law firm would meet with the inventor to discuss the invention, and then draft and file the patent application in due course. It is believed that such procedures are prudent, and were generally typical within the field of business of Applicant. Applicant submits that in view of the above there was diligence from the date of first written description, February 1, 1999, to the Disclosure on June 1, 1999, to the constructive reduction to practice on 14, 1999.

The undersigned acknowledges that willful false statements are punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon. All statements made herein from personal knowledge are true, and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Respectfully Submitted,

10/17/06   Kevin A. Sembrat
Date

Kevin A. Sembrat
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Intellectual Property FOR

Invention Disclosure Submission Reply

(Attachments?: NO)

Your Invention Disclosure Submission Has Been Receivedin the Patent Database on 01 jun 1999 22:31:12 You Will Receive An Acknowledgement From the Patent Department Within Two Weeks.

You May **Print** the Following Record of Your Transaction by Selecting File...Print Within Netscape.

Disclosure Number: 10616BA	
Invention Title: Intelligent Filtering For Contact Spanning Multiple Access Networks	
Full legal name of first inventor: STEVEN M ARMSTRONG **Name usually known as:** STEVEN	**Residence address:** 24 HILLVIEW RD, NEPEAN, ON, K2H5G5, CANADA
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Location: CAR	**Mailstop:** 04383Z14
Department: 0R21	**Occupation:** SENIOR SOFTWARE ARCHITECT
Were there additional inventors involved? yes	**Was there contractor involvement?** no

Name of supervisor or divisional head: DENIS TRUDEAU	Name of AVP reported to: BRUCE ROE

LOB:
Enterprise Solutions

Business Unit:
Enterprise Data

Date of first written description:
01 feb 1999

Has this invention been discussed with others? If so, please complete:

Inside Nortel - to whom?
GENERAL NORTEL POPULATION VIA WEB

Inside Nortel - when?
01 apr 1999

Outside Nortel - to whom?

Outside Nortel - to when?

Was there a Non-Disclosure Agreement in place?
no

Are you aware of any imminent disclosures? Please provide dates and details.
This is the third of three disclosures that the PCP (Personal Communications Portal) team will be making on June 1, 1999.

Key words for searching:
Mobility
Personal Communications
Portal
Unified Networks
Intelligent Filtering
Rules
Instant Messaging

Products that will use this invention:
The PCP project was initially conceived as part of the Carrier IP Mobility Lead Programme under Allan Fox. Subsequently, both the Enterprise Business Development group under Brian Collie and the Wireless Business Development group under Arno Schmidt have shown a keen interest. The idea is that this technology can be used across multiple LOBs/products to achieve Nortel's aim of Unified Networks. It can form the basis for new products, or can be used in conjunction with existing Nortel products such as CallPilot, Friday, etc.

Does this invention arise from any arrangement involving any external organization?
no

Is the invention relevant to a Standards activity? yes	If so, give details: Potentially relevant to the IETF's IMPP (InstantMessaging/Presence Protocol) working group - please see http://www.ietf.org/html.charters/impp-charter.html for more details.

Internal project numbers under which this invention was funded:
18561, 18562

Technical Information:

Brief description of the invention:

This is based on the work covered under the disclosure "Instant Messaging & Presence Spanning Multiple Access Networks" and is an extension to the ideas put forward in the disclosure entitled "Address Independent Contact Spanning Multiple Access Networks".

As well as the ability to manually or automatically change address specifics as covered by the second disclosure referenced above, our invention will also allow users to create rules based on characteristics such as time of day, the individual initiating the contact, current work state (e.g. in a meeting), or current location (e.g. at home sick). These rules may be combined to yield a completely customized contact setup. In addition to automatically having certain addresses apply for certain characteristics, it is also possible to exclude certain contact methods altogether. For example, when I'm at home sick, I'll only accept e-mail, except I'll allow my boss to phone me, and that telephone number will be set to be my home phone. Note that rules denoting common situations may be saved and subsequently re-used the next time such a situation arises.

Problem solved by the invention:

Users wish to have more control over who can contact them, at what time, and on what device. The intelligent filtering rules discussed here are a means of doing this.

Solutions that have been tried and why they didn't work:

We know of no current commercial offerings that provide what our invention supports. Our work has been influenced to a degree on our previous DNSP (Distributed Networked Services Platform) technology that was spun off into the Nortel/Microcell joint venture Saraide.com. Several patents were successfully filed for this work (available on request).

During our current PCP work, we discovered several groups within Nortel looking into instant messaging concepts, though none seem to be adressing intelligent filtering rules, especially as they apply across multiple access networks.
Two such IM-style projeccts are ReachMe (http://bmeri4c/servlet/ReachMe/) and work being done in conjunction with Lotus by the ITAG Business Development Group (Hugh Dysart).

Specific elements or steps that solved the problem and how they do it:

The presence of a user, and hence their reachability, is determined via three distinct phases. A person's raw presence is based on the set of devices that are currently available for use. By applying user-defined rules and gathering other forms of input, such as calendaring information, the PCP is able to determine a person's current context, or mode. Thus, raw presence defines a set of currently available devices and a particular mode (e.g. in a meeting, at home, on vacation, etc.). Then, based on an individual's mode and another set of user-defined rules, this person's exposed presence can be calculated. Exposed presence determines for whom a user is available, and on what set of devices (e.g. if I am in a meeting, then I am available only to work colleagues via a textual message on my cellular phone). Users can then, if they so desire, restrict things even further by establishing rules that define their current connection presence. This allows individuals to define who they are willing to accept a connection from based on the semantics of the information that the requesting party wishes to deliver. Thus, for example, even though my exposed presence indicates that I am available to work colleagues via a textual message on my cell phone, my connection presence may restrict connections to those that only involve messages marked urgent.

Commercial value of the invention to Nortel and Nortel's major competitors:

Please see the commercial value section as found in the disclosure entitled "Instant Messaging & Presence Spanning Multiple Access Networks".

Additional Inventors:

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